



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Accountability Minutes 10/2/2008

Minutes for Thursday, October 2, 2008 Meeting
of the
District Accountability Subcommittee
of the
Arlington School Committee
(Approved 10/23/2008)

School Committee Room, Arlington, Massachusetts

Present: Subcommittee Members -- Joseph A. Curro, Jr. (Chair)
Joseph E. Curran (*joined meeting in progress*)
Leba Heigham

Kathleen Bodie, Interim Superintendent of Schools

The Subcommittee Chair called the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Curran joined the meeting in progress, as the subcommittee took up consideration of the minutes from September 8, 2008.

Mr. Curro noted a spelling error. ***Ms. Heigham moved to approve the minutes of September 8, 2008 with the noted correction. Mr. Curran seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.***

Review of 2007 - 2008 Goals

There was a discussion concerning the proper representation of the Superintendent's recommendations on the tracking spreadsheet, as the subcommittee was not provided with a specific numeric recommendation for all objectives.

The subcommittee reviewed with the interim Superintendent the objectives discussed on September 8, as well as objectives for which action was outstanding.

1. d) (Mathematics Achievement of Middle School Students with IEPs – 3 potential points): Analysis by grade is pending the setup of TestWiz and the solution of IT issues around this.

1. e) (Special Education Communication Plan – 3 potential points): There is a question as to whether the required survey was ever administered. The interim Superintendent opted to issue no recommendation. ***Ms. Heigham moved to recommend the awarding of 0 points. Mr. Curran seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.***

1. f) (Research Executive Functioning Inclusion in Curriculum – 2 potential points): The interim Superintendent specified that she could provide no recommendation on this goal.

1. h) (In-House Special Education Programming – 2 potential points): The interim Superintendent recommended the awarding

of 2 points. During discussion, there was general consensus concerning the need to constantly adjust special education curriculum based on who is in the classroom. The subcommittee declined to revisit its previous recommendation of 1 point.

2. l) (K-2 Reading Progress – 2 potential points): Both the interim Superintendent and the subcommittee declined to make a recommendation concerning this objective, opting to defer it to next year's objectives.

3. c) (Source Material Evaluation in 9th Grade Social Studies – 2 potential points): Ms. Heigham pointed out the need to make an administrative change to the scoring sheet, changing the Superintendent's recommendation from 3 to 2 points.

3. m) (21st Century Education Year 2 Implementation Steps – 3 potential points):

The interim Superintendent recommended the awarding of 2 points. The subcommittee discussed the possibility of revisiting its previous recommendation of 0 points, but declined to do so, due to the lack of a written plan as required in the scoring criteria.

4. d) (Effective Utilization of Online Calendar – 1 potential point): While the calendar was put into place, there was no demonstration made to the subcommittee that this has been adopted system-wide. *On motion of Mr. Curran and seconded by Ms. Heigham, the subcommittee voted unanimously to recommend the awarding of 0 points.*

2008 – 2009 Goals

Ms. Bodie shared the third draft of the 2008 – 2009 goals with the subcommittee. There was general discussion of these goals.

Ms. Heigham requested a change in wording of the goal relating to subgroup achievement in math and English language arts at the Thompson School.

There was discussion concerning the objective for English Language Learners. The interim Superintendent explained that this was a placeholder goal and talked about both professional development efforts in this area and AYP considerations.

Mr. Curro noted the highlighting of PowerSchool and asked about the possibility of including an objective around Eutactics usability.

Adjournment

On motion of Ms. Curran, seconded by Ms. Heigham, the Subcommittee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph A. Curro, Jr., Chair
District Accountability Subcommittee